



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Office of Grants and Research Newsletter

July 2011

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's (EOPSS) Office of Grants and Research (OGR) serves as the State Administering Agency for many of the Commonwealth's federal criminal justice, highway safety, and homeland security funds. The EOPSS OGR newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, trainings, and funding opportunities with public safety professionals throughout the Commonwealth. The information in this newsletter is sourced from federal, state, and local agencies as well as other sources and is compiled by the Research and Policy Analysis Division at OGR.

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EOPSS/OGR Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

2011 Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program

Application Deadline: July 14, 2011

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants & Research is responsible for administering the Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program, a grant program originating from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Byrne JAG Program is authorized by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, and is designed to provide seed money to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on local needs and conditions. The JAG Program provides Massachusetts critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement; prosecution and court programs; prevention and education programs; corrections and community corrections; drug treatment and enforcement; crime victim and witness initiatives; and planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs.

For more information:

http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsmodulechunk&L=1&L0=Home&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=programs_fjj_2011_byrne_jag_application&csid=Eeops

Violence Against Women Act STOP Grant Availability of Grant Funds

Application Deadline: 4:00 pm on July 29, 2011

The Executive Office of Public Safety & Security's Office of Grants & Research (OGR) announces the availability of the FFY 2011 VAWA STOP Grant funds. EOPSS is responsible for administering the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Services Training Officers Prosecutors (STOP) Grant, a program originating from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). The STOP Grant Program is authorized by the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 and is designed to provide financial assistance to develop and strengthen law enforcement, prosecution strategies, and strengthen victim services in cases of violent crimes against women.

The grant application is now available online at www.mass.gov/eopsfunding click on "Justice and Prevention", "Grant Programs", "Violence Against Women Act STOP Grant Program (VAWA)." EOPSS will conduct a bidders meeting on June 28, 2011 and a conference call on June 30, 2011 to answer questions regarding the FFY 2011 VAWA STOP Grant application process. Attendance for both is optional. Questions regarding this grant program should be sent to yawastopagf@state.ma.us.

FFY 2011 Traffic Enforcement Grant Program

Application Deadline: Open, rolling-enrollment through July 29, 2011

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Highway Safety Division, announces the continued availability of approximately \$650,000 in federal grant funding in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 for municipal, college, and university law enforcement agencies with Chapter 90 arrest powers to participate in the remaining high visibility traffic enforcement mobilizations in August – September.

The grant application and related paperwork are posted on our website, www.mass.gov/highwaysafety under the “FFY 2011 Traffic Enforcement Grant Program” link.

Other Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

BJA FY 11 Improving Criminal Courts Solicitation

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Application Deadline: July 8, 2011

This FY 2011 grant announcement focuses on national, state, local, and tribal initiatives to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, in particular to provide training and technical assistance to problem-solving courts; support prosecutors seeking to implement innovative strategies to become high-performing organizations; assist criminal courts at the state and local levels to improve the capacity, efficiency, and quality of the judicial system’s ability to respond to increases in volume and/or complexity of criminal caseloads; provide national support to states reforming indigent defense systems; and support state and local jurisdictions develop and implement a comprehensive evidence-based approach to pretrial justice. This program is funded under the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program (Byrne Competitive Program), the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program.

For more information: <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=98693>

Defending Childhood Technical Assistance

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Application Deadline: July 11, 2011

The Defending Childhood Technical Assistance project will support an organization and/or a consortium of organizations to provide technical assistance to grantees and others during Phase II of the Attorney General Defending Childhood Initiative. The project will offer education and training, expert consultations, peer-to-peer networking opportunities, resources, and other tailored assistance to effectively respond to diverse communities addressing children exposure to violence. The project will be administered through a cooperative agreement with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in partnership with the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office on Violence Against Women. The project will assist communities to develop and implement collaborative cross-agency policy, practice, and procedures and will assist communities in identifying evidence-based practices that address children exposure to violence throughout the developmental age spectrum of children age 17 and under.

For more information:

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2011/Defending%20Childhood%20Technical%20Assistance.pdf>

National Training and Technical Assistance Center for Truancy Prevention and Intervention

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Application Deadline: July 11, 2011

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks to establish a national training and technical assistance center that will advance the understanding and application of evidence-based truancy prevention and intervention strategies. The center will accomplish its mission through a broad range of activities, including training and technical assistance, information dissemination, collaboration with researchers and program developers, policy development, and partnership with federal, state, and local agencies. The center will also assist OJJDP and the Office for Safe and Drug Free Schools in establishing a new truancy prevention/intervention demonstration program, planned for launch in FY 2012.

For more information: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2011/T&TACenterforTruancy.pdf>

Second Chance Act Demonstration Field Experiment: Fostering Desistance through Effective Supervision

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Application Deadline: July 11, 2011

As part of a collaborative effort with the National Institute of Justice and the National Institute of Corrections, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks proposals to implement and rigorously test important criminal justice interventions and programs as part of a multi-site Demonstration Field Experiment (DFE) on prisoner reentry. The DFE will use a randomized controlled trial program methodology. This multi-site DFE is part of BJA's reentry activities supported with funding under the Second Chance Act of 2007 (SCA). One purpose of the SCA is to generate new evidence about effective solutions for managing the increasing number of people who are released from jail and prison into communities and the subsequent challenges communities face as offenders attempt to reintegrate into society. For information, read the Second Chance Act of 2007.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/11SecondChanceDFEsol.pdf>

FY 2011 Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) National Firefighter Survivor Support

Public Safety Officers' Benefits Office

Application Deadline: July 14, 2011

As eligibility for Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) support has been expanded beyond that of the PSOB Act in 1976, the administration of the PSOB Death, Disability, and Education Programs has become increasingly complex. The PSOB Office requires the assistance of a demonstrated leader in the field of peer support and counseling to survivors of fallen career and volunteer firefighters. Applicants are limited to for-profit and nonprofit organizations with significant experience in designing and delivering support and resources at the national level for survivors of fallen firefighters. Demonstrated knowledge of the PSOB Programs and related public safety and survivor initiatives is essential.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/psob/11PSOBFirefighterSol.pdf>

FY 2011 Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction Program (Project Safe Neighborhoods)

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Application Deadline: July 21, 2011

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is designed to create safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in crime associated with gang and gun violence. The program's effectiveness is based on the cooperation of local, state, and federal agencies engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney (USA) in each of the 94 federal judicial districts. Each USA is responsible for establishing a collaborative PSN task force of federal, state, and local law enforcement and other community members to implement gang and gun crime enforcement, intervention, and prevention initiatives within

the district. Through the PSN task force, each USA will implement the five design features of PSN—partnerships, strategic planning, training, outreach, and accountability—to address specific gun and gang crime problems in that district.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/11PSNsol.pdf>

Research and Publications

City and Suburban Crime Trends in Metropolitan America

The Brookings Institution

May 2011

In this paper, The Brookings Institution analyzes crime data compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and data from the U.S. Census Bureau to provide a geographically-focused assessment of how crime rates have changed between 1990 and 2008. Specifically, they analyze data for the roughly 5,400 communities located within the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan areas. Between 1990 and 2008, violent crime rates dropped by almost 30 percent in cities, and property crime fell by 46 percent. In general, the nation's largest metropolitan areas are much safer today than they were in years past. Within metropolitan areas, older, more urbanized, poorer, and more minority communities have benefited the most from these trends, narrowing the disparities between cities and suburbs and underscoring that crime is not a uniquely urban issue but a metropolitan one. As such, jurisdictions that lagged in reducing crime rates since 1990 may benefit from looking to neighboring communities and similar regions for lessons learned and successful policies that helped significantly reduce property and violent crime over the last two decades.

For more information: http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2011/0526_metropolitan_crime_kneebone_raphael.aspx

Police Use of Force, Tasers and Other Less-Lethal Weapons

National Institute of Justice

May 2011

The National Institute of Justice gathered an expert panel of medical professionals to study in-custody deaths related to conducted electricity devices (CEDs). In its report, the panel said that while CED use is not risk free, there is no clear medical evidence that shows a high risk of serious injury or death from the direct effects of CEDs. Field experience with CED use shows that exposure is usually safe. A preliminary review of deaths following CED exposure found that many are associated with continuous or repeated shocks. There may be circumstances in which repeated or continuous exposure is required, but law enforcement officers should be aware that the associated risks are unknown. Therefore, caution is urged in using multiple activations.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/232215.pdf>

New CDC Report on Massachusetts Costs of Motor Vehicle Crashes

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

May 2011

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control released a new state-by-state comparison of the costs of motor vehicle crash deaths, along with its individual state report for Massachusetts.

For more information: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/CrashCosts/?source=govdelivery>

Evaluation of a Violence Risk (Threat) Assessment Training Program for Police and Other Criminal Justice Professionals

Simon Fraser University and University of Bergen

April 2011

The authors examined a program intended to train criminal justice professionals on the use of violence risk assessment instruments. Utilizing pre and post-training surveys, they evaluated a violence risk assessment training program's impact on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the participants. The program covered principles of violence risk assessment, the nature of mental disorder and its association with violence risk, and the use of various structured professional judgment (SPJ) risk assessment instruments. A total of 73 participants completed pre and post-training surveys. The results of this study were consistent with previous studies that demonstrate that aspects of the SPJ model of violence risk assessment can be taught to and accurately used by various professional groups.

Participants demonstrated improved knowledge between the pre and post-training surveys, showed significant improvement in their ability to accurately use the risk assessment skills learned in training in an applied manner, and reported improved confidence, competence, and knowledge following training.

For more information: <http://cjb.sagepub.com/content/38/6/554>

Conferences and Trainings

Next Generation Leadership Summit for Public Safety Professionals

Fitchburg Police Department and Fitchburg State University

July 31, 2011 to August 5, 2011, Fitchburg, Massachusetts

Fitchburg State University, Center for Professional Studies; Crocker Center for Civic Engagement, Criminal Justice Program; and the Fitchburg Police Department are collaborating to present a leadership summit for public safety, not-for-profits, and business and education professionals.

For more information: www.fitchburgstate.edu/cps/publicsafetysummit.cfm

2011 National Forum on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

National Criminal Justice Association, Bureau of Justice Assistance, and Integrated Justice Information Systems Institute

July 31, 2011 to August 02, 2011, Jersey City, New Jersey

The theme for the 2011 National Forum is "Vision for the Future of Justice: Better, Smarter, Safer." Sponsored by the National Criminal Justice Association, the Integrated Justice Information Systems Institute, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the 2011 National Forum on Criminal Justice and Public Safety showcases programs and technologies that help justice practitioners and decision makers in states, local communities, and tribal nations address pressing public safety issues today and in the future.

For more information:

http://www.ncja.org/NCJA/Education_and_Events/2011_National_Forum/NCJA/Navigation/EducationEvents/2011_National_Forum.aspx?hkey=2ca75f08-5533-43b6-afb5-d373ce53c159

2011 Community Policing Conference: Advancing Public Safety in a New Economy

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

August 1 to August 2, 2011, Washington, D.C.

This conference will feature multiple subject tracks offering leadership strategies to law enforcement personnel from chief executives to line-level officers, practical solutions to pressing issues facing the policing profession, and the latest innovations in crime reduction and prevention. The focus throughout this conference will be on building relationships and solving problems in order to ensure the effective delivery of public safety services as community needs and resources evolve.

For more information: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=2565>

13th Annual National Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Leadership Conference (NLC)
Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center

August 10 to August 12, 2011, Orlando, Florida

The conference includes plenary sessions along with presentations by law enforcement, judicial members, youth, researchers, and community leaders. The 2011 NLC theme is “Spotlighting Community Solutions for Underage Drinking,” and there will be discussion of the new tools, research, and technology being developed and currently utilized as resources in the efforts to enforce underage drinking laws nationwide. The NLC will include: pre-conference activities for EUDL Coordinators and invited guests, Experiential Learning Exercises, Youth Track and Presentation, and various law enforcement and leadership awards.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.dgimeetings.com/Registration.aspx>

News

The following are excerpts from newspaper articles regarding public safety topics.

Rural Community Facilities Program is a lifeline

USA TODAY, May 18, 2011

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, known for its drought and disaster assistance to farmers, is providing hundreds of millions of dollars to cash-strapped towns and public safety agencies to buy police patrol cars, equip fire stations, and renovate courthouses.

For more information: http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2011-05-17-Agriculture-Department-funds-rural-towns-budget_n.htm

Fingerprint database could get \$10 million upgrade

Washington Post, May 24, 2011

The national electronic database of fingerprints, which is missing countless sets of prints taken before 2005, could receive a \$10 million infusion of funds to digitize the old prints now sitting in card files across the U.S., reports the *Washington Post*. The gap in the IDENT database was exposed in January when the Post reported that a man wanted in the rape of an 8-year-old girl in Virginia had been in jail several weeks before the incident. Although the man, Salvador Portillo-Saravia, had been deported in 2003, when jail officials checked his fingerprints in November through the Secure Communities computer, there was no match reported, and he was released. Portillo-Saravia, identified by Fairfax police as a member of the street gang MS-13, was arrested in Houston in February. Immigration officials said many people who were deported before 2005 were fingerprinted the old-fashioned way, with inked fingertips rolled onto a card or sheet, and an unknown number of those prints are not in the electronic database. Representative Frank Wolf, chairman of the subcommittee overseeing the Justice Department budget, has proposed to provide \$10 million to digitize old fingerprint cards.

For more information: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/fingerprint-database-could-get-10-million-upgrade/2011/05/24/AFH8XiAH_story.html

In Lawrence, a blue line stretched thin

The Boston Globe, May 25, 2011

Five years ago, Lawrence police were touting a steady drop in crime and an 18-month period with no homicides. Officials at the time credited community policing initiatives and sophisticated gang intelligence for the decline. Today, the antigang unit and other specialized squads no longer exist due to funding cuts responding to the massive budget deficit. Community policing, a law enforcement philosophy that puts more emphasis on preventing violence than responding to it, is virtually

nonexistent. Police officials say they barely have the staff to respond to regular calls. A *Globe* reporter spent two Friday nights with police officers as they patrolled this city of about 77,000. The ride-alongs, as well as interviews with other officers and top brass, suggest a force that is tense, on edge, and always waiting for the eruption that will overwhelm its diminished numbers, says *The Boston Globe*.

For more information: http://articles.boston.com/2011-05-25/news/29582377_1_police-officers-police-department-police-work

Attorney General Eric Holder Speaks Before the U.S. Sentencing Commission

U.S. Department of Justice, June 1, 2011

Attorney General Eric Holder today called for the reform of the U.S. crack-powder sentencing law to be applied retroactively. He spoke to the U.S. Sentencing Commission, which is considering the change. Last year, Congress modified the nearly quarter-century-old 100-to-1 sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine offenses, making the difference 18-to-1. However, it was not clear how the law would affect people charged before it took effect. Holder noted that in 2008, after the commission applied retroactively an amendment that reduced the base offense level for crack by two levels - known as the "crack minus two" amendment - some predicted that that the move would cause a dramatic rise in crime rates. As a study released by the commission yesterday shows, Holder said, those whose sentences were reduced after that amendment was applied retroactively actually had a slightly lower rate of recidivism than the study's control group. Holder said the commission should be able to make the law retroactive without congressional action.

For more information: <http://www.justice.gov/iso/opa/ag/testimony/2011/ag-testimony-110601.html>

Juvenile offenders drops to historically low levels, state says

The Milford Daily News, June 6, 2011

The number of young criminal offenders in the custody of the state's juvenile justice agency has dropped to historically low levels, commissioners from the Department of Youth Services told legislators. In 2010, there were 730 young offenders in DYS custody for the entire year, down from 1,113 in 2006. The number of young people in custody awaiting trials dropped from an average of 300 a day to less than 200 since the department started the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative, commissioners said. In 2005, the year the program started, the number of young offenders in custody for both the full year and those awaiting trial totaled 5,714. DYS Commissioner Jane Tewksbury said the goal of the initiative is to help non-violent criminal offenders get social services, while keeping them away from more violent criminals who could influence them to commit more serious crimes.

For more information: <http://www.milforddailynews.com/archive/x1595585988/Juvenile-offenders-drops-to-historically-low-levels-state-says#ixzz1OhcazXtq>

US overrules Patrick on immigration

The Boston Globe, June 7, 2011

The U.S. government will force the state of Massachusetts to join a controversial federal program to detect and deport illegal immigrants, despite Governor Deval Patrick's refusal to endorse it, a senior Homeland Security official said yesterday. Patrick's rejection of the Secure Communities program yesterday can do little, if anything, to impede the program from expanding statewide by 2013, said the official, who has direct knowledge of the program but spoke on the condition of anonymity because he did not have clearance to speak for the agency. The data-sharing systems the program relies upon are already in place, the official said, and the governor has no legal standing to block their use.

For more information: http://articles.boston.com/2011-06-07/news/29630407_1_immigrant-advocates-illegal-immigrants-federal-immigration

Fed courts in Mass. to join camera in courts study

The Boston Herald, June 8, 2011

The U.S. District Court of Massachusetts is among 14 federal trial courts selected to take part in a pilot study of cameras in courtrooms. Federal officials announced Wednesday the courtrooms will begin taking part in the study on July 18, 2011. Under the program, civil trials will be recorded with the approval of the presiding judge and all parties. The pilot recordings will not be simulcast but will be made available as soon as possible on www.uscourts.gov.

For more information:

http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20110608fed_courts_in_mass_to_join_camera_in_courts_study/

Justices Say Fleeing Police by Car Is a Violent Felony

The New York Times, June 9, 2011

Fleeing from the police in a car is a violent felony that can subject criminals to mandatory 15-year prison terms, the Supreme Court ruled on Thursday in a 6-to-3 decision. The decision was the court's fourth encounter since 2007 with a phrase in a federal law, the Armed Career Criminal Act. Fleeing from the police in a car, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote for the majority, "is a provocative and dangerous act that dares, and in a typical case requires, the officer to give chase." As a statistical matter, he wrote, four police officers or bystanders are injured for every 100 pursuits. By contrast, he said, there are 3.2 injuries for every 100 burglaries.

For more information: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/10/us/10scotus.html?ref=adamliptak>

Announcements

Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center Works with Data Providers on Analyses

Justice Research and Statistics Association

The Research and Policy Analysis Division of the Massachusetts Office of Public Safety and Security, which houses the Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), recently worked with both the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) and the State Police Crime Reporting Unit to obtain data for crime analysis projects. CJIS is responsible for maintaining the Criminal Justice Information System, an extensive law enforcement database containing state and interstate criminal history record information, firearms licensing and gun sales transactions, and other critical criminal justice information.

Firearm-Related Offenses. The SAC utilized the CJIS data to examine 26,723 firearm-related offenses in the Commonwealth between 2006 and 2008. According to the data, 7,959 individuals were arraigned on firearms charges. Disposition data were analyzed to determine a final sentencing for each charge. Among the defendant characteristics were the following: The defendants ranged from 14 to 91 years of age, with 51% of those charged being ages 17 to 24; 91% of defendants charged with a firearm offense were male; 38% of defendants were white, 34 % black, 22% Hispanic, 2% Asian, and 4% unknown. The full report is available on the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security website at <http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopshomepage&L=1&L0=Home&sid=Eeops>.

Hate Crimes. The SAC is completing a report on hate crimes in the state between 2000 and 2009 using data from the State Police Crime Reporting Unit. The data analysis on incidents, offenses, victims, and offenders focuses on trends and patterns of these crimes for the 10-year period. The complete report will be available by late summer 2011.

Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. The SAC will also be working on sexual assault and domestic violence projects using a unique dataset created in 2000, the Provider Sexual Crime Report (PSCR).

Medical providers are required by law to fill out a PSCR for every sexual assault and rape where the victim seeks medical treatment, even when the victims do not report the crimes to police. As a result, the PSCR provides detailed data on sexual crimes that are commonly underreported and therefore not tracked in other law enforcement-based datasets. Plans are to use the PSCR data to also focus on elderly, teen, and disabled victims of sexual assault. The data set provides, among other things, information about whether the assault was reported to police, the types of weapons or force the assailant used, the nature of the assault and injuries sustained, as well as the prior relationship, if any, between victims and assailants.

In addition, the SAC will be studying domestic violence incidents in Massachusetts as reported in NIBRS. An increased demand for services provided by domestic violence service providers coupled with reduced resources has resulted in a growing shortage of shelter beds and core services. A survey done in fall 2010 found that in one day there were 766 unmet requests for services; of these, 619 were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

For full text: http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/forum/forum_issues/for29_2.pdf

Fair and Impartial Policing Modules to be available on DVD

In March, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) announced the Fair and Impartial Policing Website with Video Modules at www.mass.gov/eopss for use by police departments and for community outreach. Currently, the Highway Safety Division is in the process of translating the five modules into Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Creole, Khmer, Chinese, Cape Verdean, and Vietnamese.

If your police department would like the five modules on a DVD in English or any of the languages above, please send your request noting the languages you need for community outreach to Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us. Based on the response from MCOPA members, we will order sufficient copies for local police departments. We anticipate the no-cost DVDs will be ready early this month. Thank you.

Program Area Updates for the Center for Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement

There are two updates to the Program Areas on The Center for Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement web site. The updates include a new program area on Offender-based Policing and extensive revisions to the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program area. These updates can be found here:

Offender-Based Policing

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/evaluation/program-law-enforcement/offender-index.htm

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/evaluation/program-substance-abuse/rsat-index.htm

Study Shows Prom and Graduation Drinking Perceived to be Higher by Underage Youth

It is prom and graduation time, and current research from Liberty Mutual Insurance and Students Against Destructive Decisions suggests this season could be dangerous for underage youth. According to a national survey of more than 2,500 eleventh and twelfth graders, researchers found 90 percent of these teens believed their counterparts were more likely to drink and drive on prom night and 79 percent believed the same to be true for graduation night. Unfortunately that belief did not cause them alarm. A mere 29 percent and 25 percent of teens said that driving on prom night and graduation night, respectively, comes with “a high degree of danger” despite the admission that a high number of those drivers were believed to use alcohol before or while driving.

Dave Melton, a driving safety expert with the Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, stated, “Newspapers, television, YouTube and Facebook are rife with tales of tragedy from reckless driving on prom and graduation nights, yet an ‘it won’t happen to me’ attitude continues to be so pervasive among our teens.” The full study can be found by viewing the following CESAR Fax:

<http://www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol19/19-15.pdf>

New resource from the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program (EUDL)

The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program’s goal is to inform the reader about EUDL’s history, highlights and accomplishments in reducing the risks of underage drinking. Readers will note the increase in the use of evidence based strategies which you and your communities have helped to implement. The document reflects outcomes such as improved military readiness and our collective goal of safer futures for youth. Please let EUDL know how you use this one pager in your communities. View the fact sheet here: <http://www.udetc.org/documents/eudl/eudlone.pdf>

National Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Leadership Conference (NLC) Exhibitors

The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program is still accepting exhibitors for the National Leadership conference. Exhibitors will have exposure to a wide range of resources to include enforcement leaders, enforcement officers, state officials, government officials, community and youth group leaders, educators, health and safety professionals, and others concerned with underage drinking issues. Sign up by visiting www.udetc.org. Simply click on the exhibitor tab for pricing and the sign up form before the deadline on July 8, 2011.

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: <mailto:EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us>

Subscription details:

To subscribe to this newsletter send an email to: <mailto:join-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us?subject=Subscribe to EOPSS Newsletter>

To unsubscribe to this newsletter send an email to: <mailto:leave-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us?subject=Unsubscribe from EOPSS Newsletter>

For additional information on EOPSS’ grant programs or agencies please visit: www.mass.gov/eops